

**AGENDA SUMMARY PAGE**  
**SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF: OCTOBER 14, 2009**

**DEPARTMENT: CITY MANAGER**

**DIRECTOR: ELIZABETH N. FRETWELL**

☐ Consent ☒ Discussion

**SUBJECT:**

ADMINISTRATIVE:

\*\* REPORT ON AB-494 – Report concerning the consolidation or reorganization of certain functions performed by Local Governments - report provided by the city of Las Vegas and Washoe County

**Fiscal Impact**

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No Impact

☐

Augmentation Required

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Budget Funds Available

**Amount:**

**Funding Source:**

**Dept./Division:**

**PURPOSE/BACKGROUND:**

Reports made by the city of Las Vegas and Washoe County regarding consolidation or reorganization of certain functions performed by Local Governments.

No action will be taken during this summit, no recommendation will come forward, no findings will be made and no direction will be given as a group. Pursuant to NRS 244.085(7) and due to the fact that several county commissions will be participating in a public meeting more than 10 miles from their county seats, no official action (voting) will be taken. [\*\*Denotes that these items may involve an action by the Las Vegas City Council].

**RECOMMENDATION:**

None

**BACKUP DOCUMENTATION:**

1. Assembly Bill No. 494
2. General Information Report
3. PowerPoint Presentation
4. Submitted after Meeting – Excerpts of the Nevada Local Government Summit by the City of Henderson

Minutes:

Washoe COUNTY MANAGER KATY SIMON and City of Las Vegas CITY MANAGER ELIZABETH FRETWELL utilized a PowerPoint Presentation outlining the requirements of Assembly Bill 494 (AB 494). Three essential areas were identified: 1) public safety, (2) public works, and (3) general government. In accordance with AB 494, the Board of Commissioners

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primarily of Clark County and Washoe County and the governing body of each City in those Counties, were required to submit reports to the next session of the Legislature concerning the consolidation or reorganization of the three defined areas. The reports were required to address specific aspects; i.e., functions that are being considered for consolidation/reorganization, projected cost savings and determination whether non-consolidated functions are appropriate for consolidation/reorganization.

In order to summarize and categorize each of the responsibilities, a committee will be selected to periodically analyze the reports. CITY MANAGER SIMON explained that there are existing statutes that mandate the governing abilities of cities and counties. She acknowledged a history of cooperation between the Cities of Reno and Sparks and Washoe County and noted several partnerships such as the library, water reclamation and fire and safety.

CITY MANAGER FRETWELL announced that the reports, which include submittal options, regional, individual and statewide, are soon due. She emphasized that there are serious issues and all entities must work towards retaining control, yet respecting each other's sovereignty. MR. REILLY remarked that this area can be emotional and that there are specific time tables. When questioned about sensible consolidation, CITY MANAGER FRETWELL replied that that initiative would be part of a feasibility analysis and one could assume that any constraints would be made a part of that report.

There were comments about identifying regional services, determining whether it would be more effective for some local jurisdictions to retain their own police/fire services; creating a committee to study consolidation of the lower court system; realizing that possibly only partial or short-term consolidation would be feasible; and addressing staff layoffs to avoid future costs while still ensuring job security.

COUNCILMAN STAVROS ANTHONY realized that a consolidation/reorganization would require extensive study; however, he questioned how this would be accomplished in less than a year. CITY MANAGER FRETWELL replied that this is a very complicated situation, but as a region, discussion is eminent. Despite already having had preliminary discussions, lots of work will be required which may result in extensive costs.

With regard to the Shared Services Committee, CITY MANAGER SIMON applauded their efforts in evaluating and planning the merger of Human Resources, Information Technology and Purchasing functions. COUNCILWOMAN LOIS TARKANIAN remarked that she strongly supports the Shared Services Committee comprised of elected officials from Cities, Counties and School Districts.